

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 02877 251523Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 OMB-01 SSM-03 /080 W
-----251712Z 109530 /53

R 251442Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5850
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, IS
SUBJECT: PERES CHAIRS CABINET MEETING

1. ON APRIL 24 SHIMON PERES CHAIRED THE FIRST CABINET MEETING HELD SINCE PRIME MINISTER RABIN WENT ON EXTENDED LEAVE APRIL22. PERES PRESENTED TO THE CABINET THE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS AGREED TO BETWEEN HIMSELF AND RABIN.

2. ACCORDING TO THE AGREEMENT, PERES WILL CHAIR CABINET SESSIONS AND MEETINGS OF MINISTERIAL COMMITTEES OVER WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER NORMALLY PRESIDES. PERES WILL MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH THE DIRECTOR OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (ELI MIZRACHI) AND THE CABINET SECRETARY (GERSHON AVNER) WHO IN TURN WILL KEEP THE PRIME MINISTER INFORMED OF CABINET DISCUSSIONS AND MEETINGS OF THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEES. THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE THE PRIME MINISTER. RABIN AND PERES ALSO AGREED ON THEIR RESPECTIVE

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PAGE 02 TEL AV 02877 251523Z

RESPONSIBILITIES IN SECURITY MATTERS, BUT THESE WERE NOT MADE PUBLIC.

3. ONE ITEM APPARENTLY NOT SETTLED WAS PERES' TITLE. THE CABINET COMMUNIQUE REFERRED TO HIM AS "CHAIRMAN OF THE SESSION," OMITTING ANY MENTION OF THE TERM "ACTING PRIME MINISTER." IT IS CLEAR THAT

RABIN CONTINUES TO BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF
THE OFFICE OF PRIME MINISTER WITH PERES IN CHARGE
OF ITS DAY-TO-DAY FUNCTIONING.

4. PERES REPORTEDLY RECEIVED FAVORABLE COMMENT
FOR HIS "COMPETENT AND SMOOTH" HANDLING OF THE
TRANSFER OF POWER AND HIS "BUSINESS-LIKE"
CHAIRING OF THE CABINET MEETING. SUCH TERMS HAVE
ALSO BEEN HEARD IN CONNECTION WITH HIS WORK IN
DIRECTING LABOR'S ELECTION CAMPAIGN. HE IS SAID TO BE
VERY MUCH "IN CHARGE" AT PARTY HEADQUARTERS AND TO
BE WORKING THERE PAST MIDNIGHT EVERY NIGHT,
ADDING SPIRIT AND DRIVE TO LABOR'S CAMPAIGN--
NOW BUOYED BY THE ALIGNMENT'S IMPROVED
SHOWING IN THE LATEST POLLS (TEL AVIV 2844).
THE PUBLICATION OVER THIS PAST WEEKEND OF ALLEGATIONS
CONCERNING ABBA EBAJS U.S. BANK ACCOUNT (SEE SEPTTEL)
MAY, HOWEVER, PORTEND A NEW PROBLEM FOR THE ALIGNMENT,
SHOULD A CASE DEVELOP AGAINST EBAN.
DUNNIGAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRIME MINISTER, CABINET, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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